

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This is Applicants' response to the Examiner's Answer which, for the first time on the record, raises a question regarding Applicants' use of the term "organic based liquid working fluid" and suggesting that the term is not defined by the claims but failing to issue a rejection. Applicants maintain that the term in question is clearly understandable to those skilled in the art. However, Applicants, through this amendment have amended claim 1 to recite "the working fluid comprises molecules having a carbon-to-carbon bond." Support for the amendment is found in the instant application at page 7, lines 9-11.

Applicants have also amended claim 1 to recite "circulating a liquid working fluid through a first flow path" and "wherein the first flow path does not include a steam reforming reactor to reform the working fluid." Support for the amendment is found in Figure 1 of the instant application which shows a flow path for an organic based liquid working fluid that travels through a variety of components including a heat exchanger comprising bipolar plates in the fuel cell stack but not through a steam reforming reactor to reform the working fluid.

The claims had been rejected under both 35 USC 102 in view of Bloomfield, U.S. patent number 3,982,962, and under Bloomfield and additional references. The Examiner alleges Bloomfield discloses an organic fluid such as naphtha and water. However, Bloomfield teaches that the naphtha and water mixture flows through a steam reforming reactor. Applicants' claim 1 has been amended to recite "the first flow path does not include a steam reforming reactor to reform the working fluid" and thus defines over Bloomfield. The addition of Ennis, et al. U.S. patent number 5,938,975 nor Keller, U.S. patent number 3,968,999, does not

overcome the deficiencies of Bloomfield. Applicants maintain the claims as now amended define over the references of record.

Applicants have filed herewith an RCE requesting entry of this amendment.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of all of the claims in the application

Respectfully submitted,



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